ROBOTECH: EPISODES 1-3 COMMEMORATIVE SCRIPT BOOK HARMONY GOLD USA

HARMONY GOLD, USA PRESENTS

ROBOTECH®

EPISODES 1-3: BOOBYTRAP | COUNTDOWN | SPACE FOLD

COMMEMORATIVE SCRIPT BOOK

FOREWORD BY TONY OLIVER

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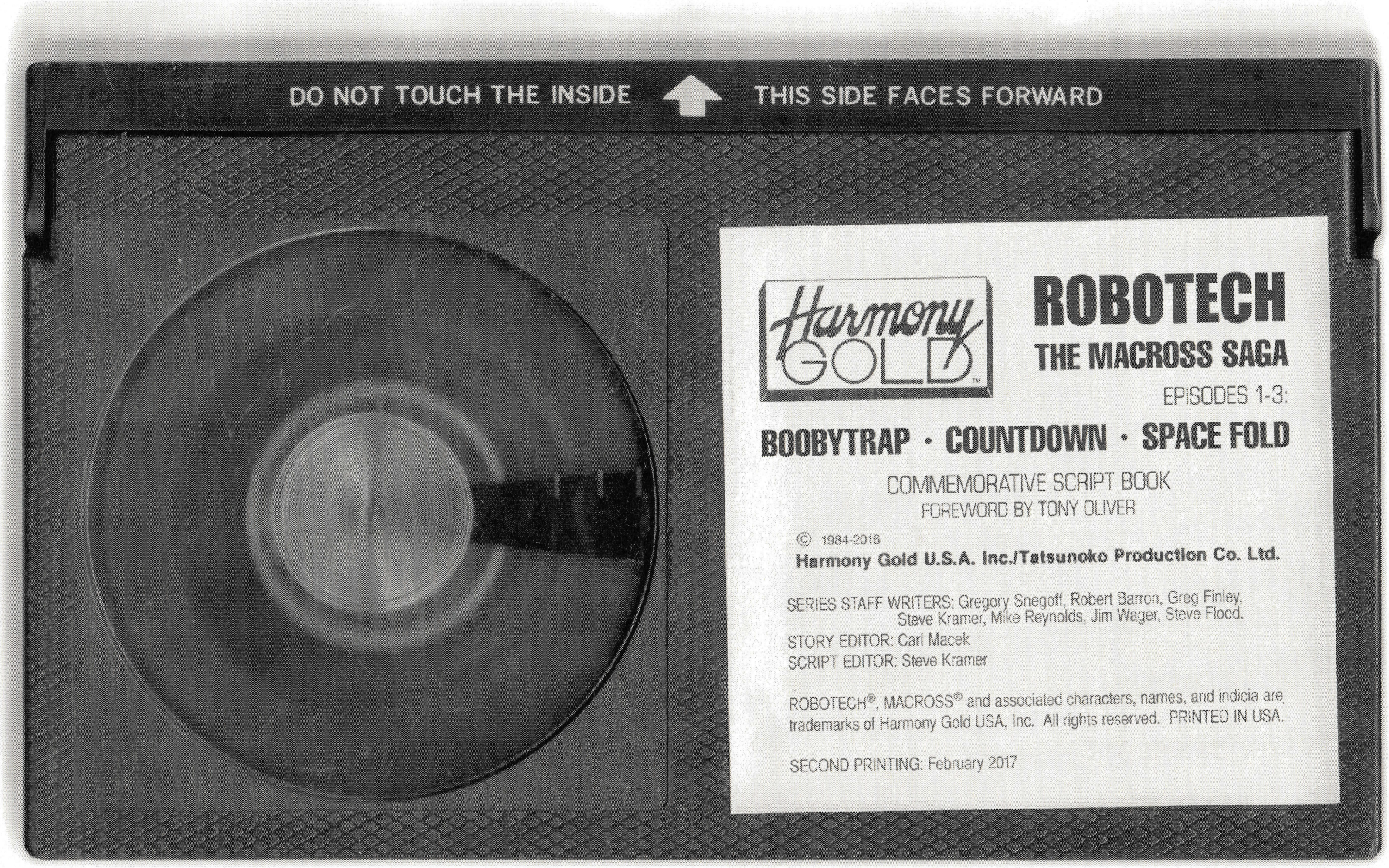

Harmony GOLD

ROBOTECH
THE MACROSS SAGA

EPISODES 1-3:

BOOBYTRAP · COUNTDOWN · SPACE FOLD

COMMEMORATIVE SCRIPT BOOK
FOREWORD BY TONY OLIVER

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Harmony Gold U.S.A. Inc./Tatsunoko Production Co. Ltd.

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ROBOTECH

COMMEMORATIVE SCRIPT BOOK

EPISODES 1-3

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FOREWORD

In the early 80's, animated TV shows ruled the Saturday morning block on the "Big 3" networks and made up a large bulk of the syndicated programs feeding the independent channels. These shows were targeted specifically at young children. Although many were well done, most of them tended to be rather silly and superficial fluff, speaking down to the audience rather than to them. It can be argued that many were little more than cheap vehicles to sell toys. That's not to say they weren't entertaining, it's just that most of them lacked the complexity to keep younger viewers invested in the show for very long or to interest older viewers in the first place. On March 4, 1985, something new appeared on afternoon television. A show with an epic story, where the characters had depth and grew as the plot progressed. A show that didn't talk down to its audience, but carried them on a journey that was as much about the relationships between the characters as it was about the circumstances they faced. This show, from the animators at Tatsunoko Productions and the creative cauldron that was Carl Macek's mind, was called *Robotech*.

Leading up to this time, I was a young actor struggling to get an acting career off the ground. Three years earlier, I had done my first and only voice over job to date on an anime feature called *The Sea Prince and the Fire Child*. Although the film eventually made it to television via a very early incarnation of ShowTime and a run through syndication, nothing ever came of it for me in terms of acting work. I was married with a toddler at home and another on the way. I was deciding whether it was time to stop the chase for stardom and settle down with a responsible job. Out of the blue I received a phone call from a man named Robert Barron who asked if I had voiced the lead character in *The Sea Prince and the Fire Child* and then offered me an audition on a pilot for a new anime. I got the part and we recorded a 70-minute "movie" made from the first three episodes of a popular Japanese animated show called *Macross*. A few months later, I received a call telling me that they had sold the series, changed the name to *Robotech* and wanted to schedule me to record. This is when I first met Carl Macek, the producer of the show and the man who, by casting me in it, would change my life profoundly.

The production schedule was brutal due to the fact that Harmony Gold had sold the show into syndication as an 85-episode series that had to be delivered quickly. The problem was that the pilot was made from a show that had only 36 episodes. Carl's solution was to combine the *Macross* series with two others from Tatsunoko: *Super Dimension Cavalry Southern Cross*, and *Genesis Climber MOSPEADA*. This meant that the entire story would have to be re-imagined and diverge from the original plots of all three shows. By the time we started recording (sometimes at one in the morning because of the relentless schedule) Carl had a clear vision of what he wanted. He wanted a narrative that, like the original Japanese stories, was not about a war for survival, but about the people living it. Somehow, in the midst of the chaos that is television production, Carl was able to stitch together the three fundamentally different storylines into a cohesive multigenerational saga, filled with poignant moments, surprising twists and a cast of layered, nuanced characters unlike any seen on animated TV up to that point. The brilliant dialogue written by Steve Kramer and Greg Snegoff and the wonderfully patient direction from Robert Barron helped to bring Carl's vision into sharp focus. As a young actor I couldn't have been luckier to have had these amazing artists teach me how to do this kind of acting and guide me through the emotional twists and turns that Rick Hunter was.

I will be forever grateful to Harmony Gold and especially to Carl for taking a chance on an untried, barely experienced actor and handing me a role that would start, and in some ways, define my career. If it weren't for Carl, I probably would have never worked again as a professional actor and I would not have had the wonderful career I have today. From working on this show I learned what deep storytelling is, that what is important about a character is not what they say, but what they are not saying, and that no matter how great a show sounds or how cool it looks, the story is everything.

May this book help those who read it remember the wonder of the show, the hope the story reflects, and the characters we all came to love. And most of all to keep Carl's dream alive.

To the stars....

Tony Oliver
voice of Rick Hunter

" Nobody can live with only love,

and only fighting is much too lonely. "

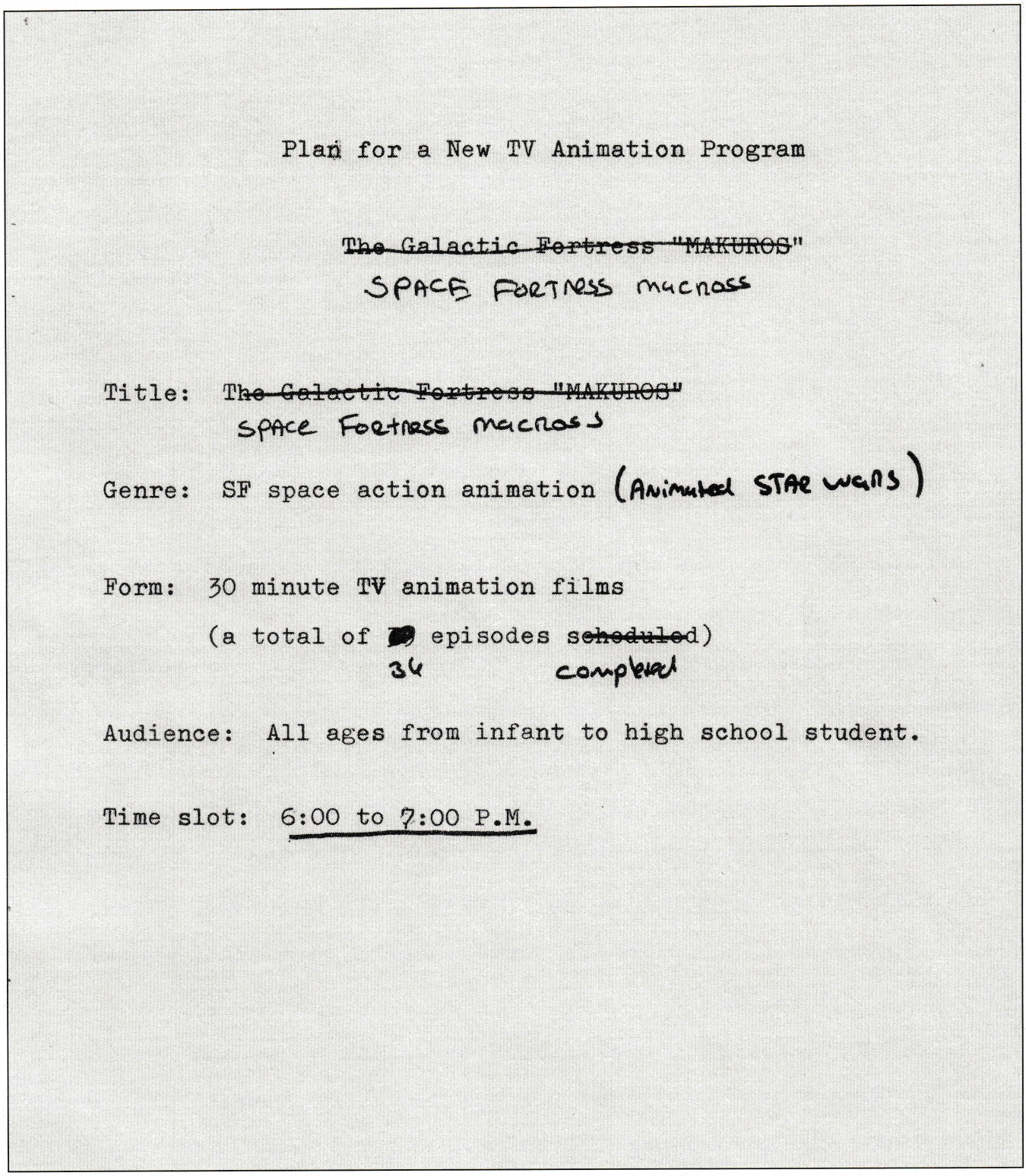
..... It's a space ~~battlewagon.~~ FORTRESS

..... It's a super giant robot.

..... It's a space city of 56,000 people

..... It's a human being.

It MACROSS !



Plan for a New TV Animation Program

~~The Galactic Fortress "MAKUROS"~~
SPACE FORTRESS MACROSS

Title: ~~The Galactic Fortress "MAKUROS"~~
space Fortress macross

Genre: SF space action animation (Animated STAR WARS)

Form: 30 minute TV animation films
(a total of [redacted] episodes ~~scheduled~~)
36 completed

Audience: All ages from infant to high school student.

Time slot: 6:00 to 7:00 P.M.

Carl Macek's annotations of the original rough outline and concepts of *Space Fortress Macross* from Tatsunoko Production Co. Ltd.

The first three episodes were translated into a *Macross* direct-to-video pilot in 1984 before being adapted into *Robotech*, which debuted in March 1985.

OUTLINE OF THE STORY

The fight between earthlings in a super giant class space warship and the aliens who are pushing their influence all over the galaxy, and the human relationships make for a magnificent drama all over the solar system. The space ~~warship~~ former "macross" "Makuros", total length 1,200 meters, turns into a super giant robot and plays a heroic part against the alien fleet.

Besides this, the various ~~Batroid~~ valkyrie fighters carried on ~~Makuros~~ macross show light air fighting. They turn into small ~~combat~~ Battroid robots and have severe fights with the enemy.

On the land, in the sky, on the sea and in space, full-scale fighting is drawn as a novel reflection.

The enemy alien is a giant 10 meters tall. Therefore all weapons that they use are drawn five times larger than those of human beings. The difference in size between alien and human being is expressed sometimes seriously, sometimes comically. The battle of this story is not the "battle for a battle" that you can see in other animations. During the fighting the characters live, feel and are scared. They fight to prove their living. We introduce "emotion" in battle.

Characters have an existance which has blood and feeling and so they evoke the viewer's sympathy. The characters in ~~Makuros~~ macross have lives as human beings. They have daily lives. They love. They are troubled. They grieve. They laugh.-----We draw these characters emotionaly. Especially, the way they fall in love and languish for love will evoke young people's sympathy. We take a close look at the problem named love in "~~Makuros~~ Macross".

CHARACTERS

1. ~~Hikaru Ichijo~~ Rick Yamada: male 18 ~~17~~ years old

The hero of this story. A chief pilot of the valuable fighter "~~Batroid~~" Valkyrie.

His nature is cheerful, frank, active and guileless. His mental age is lower than his physical age, so nobody can tell what he is thinking. He is a boy who never forgot the juvenile mind. He is a gawker who loves jets more than his meals. He never used to pay much attention to ~~the~~ girls, but-----. Some occasions let him go out on the ~~Makuros~~ Macross and he has various experiences. Though ~~trifled with~~ unexperienced in fighting and human relationships, ~~Hikaru~~ Rick is growing up remarkably and he is awakened by the love for a girl, Lynn Minmei.

2. ~~Minmei Rin~~ Linda Minmei: female 16 years old

Daughter of the owner of a Chinese restaurant in the city of ~~Makuros~~ Macross. She's the drawing card for her father's shop. A student in her ~~first~~ 2nd year of high school, she is a very beautiful girl who wants to become a star. She later on becomes a singer ~~and~~ & becomes Miss Macross the idol of both friend and foe. She's ~~Lidi Marleine~~ Linda Rosenwald in space.

She's at the age when girls dream of love. As the story progresses, she and ~~Hikaru~~ Rick fall in love with each other, and she is awakened to the true meaning and gravity of love.

3. ~~Jeanus~~ Gene Maximillian: male ~~26~~ 28 years old omit

A ~~Batroid~~ Valkyrie pilot. One of ~~Hikaru~~ Rick's teammates. He gives full play to his genius in everything he does. His nature is sunny and sharp. Though he is pretty handsome, his fault is fondness for women. He is a rival of ~~Hikaru~~ Rick. He has a ~~passionate~~ love affair later on in the series.

4. ~~Misa~~ Lisa Hayase: Female ~~19~~ 25 years old

A head fighting controller for the ~~Makuros~~ Macross air force. A member of the elite who graduated from the air staff college with the best grades. For her job she overextends herself and always strains every nerve. But in fact she keeps her delicacy and naivety. She likes knitting and has a habit of sighing. In these ways she is very girlish, but she seldom shows it. She is a good quarreling partner for ~~Hikaru~~ Rick. Though she has the sad experience of having lost her lover in the past, she doesn't breathe a word of it now. She is a woman of spirit.

5. Roy Fokker: Male 28 years old

A ~~Batroid~~ Valkyrie Fighter pilot. ~~Hikaru's~~ Rick's senior. He is ~~an~~ the ace pilot of the ~~Makuros~~ Macross air force. Though a hot-blooded man he has a cool head. He has an inner fortitude and he is a cheerful fellow. He is the mirror of what a fighter pilot should be.

6. ~~Kamujin Kravshera~~ amid.: Male 23years old (in charge of earthlings)

An officer of enemy aliens. The actual fighting commander. He is a brave fighter who always commands his soldiers from the front lines in battle. He pretends to be a nihilist, but

in fact he is hot-blooded. His real nature very often appears under the cool-headed mask. Being a spitfire is his fault. He's a woman hater.

omit -

7. Miria Farrina: female 14 years old (in the charge of earthlings)

An officer of enemy aliens. An ace pilot of the Battle suit corps, she gives full play to her genius in an air battle. She is a lovely, beautiful girl, just like a fairy, but surprisingly she maintains a hard core in her character.

Outside of these characters, various characters, both friend and foe, come out as the story progresses, and they help to deepen the drama.

Mechanical Characters

1. Makuros: a super giant ~~class~~ space ~~battleship~~

a. Outline

~~Makuro~~ Daguras is a thing which was remodeled from the mysterious space battleship which crashed in 1999, using the unique knowledge of the earthlings. It's ability to change into a ~~robot~~ was given to it by human beings. Because of this, both of its arms are made from ships which existed on the earth,

The right arm: a storm discharge ship, Daedalos,

total length 320 meters

The left arm: an offensive carrier, Prometheus,

total length 350 meters

Full length of the space battleship 1200 meters -

~~Makuros~~ turns into a giant robot, Daguras, of the same length.

It is also a city with a population of 56,000 people. -

It can sail between fixed stars with warp navigation.

b. Weapons

Double barrel buster cannon (one). Super air energy cannon. It has the destructive power to smash even a small planet into atoms with one blow. It is attached to the back of Daguras when it is used.

Sunriser. Super air energy weapon of destruction. It emits energy from the body of ~~Makuros~~, the invincible weapon in the galaxy. It extinguishes surrounding things in an instant. It can seldom be used because it is too strong.

Other weapons. Beam cannons which have a strong destructive power, missiles, antiaircraft fires, etc. are arranged. There is also an original "barrier" which guards the area for several meters around.

c. Weapons carried

Air force. A large number of the valuable fighter VF-1J ~~Balkirily~~ Valkrie (which turns into the attacking robot Batroid). Lots of unmanned air fighters QF-3000 Ghosts. Outside of these, various kinds of aircraft, airfighters, deck bombing planes, early precaution planes, command modules, helicopters, etc., are loaded onto the space ship.

Land force. Lots of combat robots for land battle, Heavy Batroid MBR-11 Destroid. Outside of these, lots of combat vehicles such as tanks of various kinds and armored vehicles.

d. Daedalos Attack

Daedalos, the converted form of ~~Makuros~~ Macross, has this deadly trick. This strong and unique tactic is that the right arm of Daedalos rams into an enemy's warship and then fires countless missiles to blow the ship to atoms.

2. The valuabe fighter VF-1J ~~Balkirily~~ Valkrie (which the hero's group uses)

a. Outline

Mass produced single seat jet fighter, total length 15 meters. It turns into the attacking robot Batroid, total height 12 meters. It blasts off from left arm, the aircraft carrier Prometheus.

b. Armament

Grenade Crusher. One of the tricks of the ~~Balkirily~~ Valkrie and

Batroid is to damage the enemy with countless micro-missiles fired from their bodies. It is an especially effective measure when one is surrounded by many enemies.

30 mm double antiaircraft machine gun. Boasts a rapid fire of 6,000 rounds per minute. It is used as a fixed gun on the Valkyrie. ~~Balkirly~~ and as a flexible machine gun mounted on the head of the Batroid.

57 mm high power machine gun. The common use weapon of the Batroid. Boasts strongest destructive power and riddle its enemies with bullets.

3. Enemy Alien Fleet.

There are battle-warships of various sizes from the 1,000 meters class up to a super giant class which has a diameter of more than 100 km.

Battle suit.

A powered suit which giants wear.
If an enemy alien wears this suit, his height becomes almost that of a Batroid. There are two types, one for flying and another for on the ground. It gives the alien the power to contend with the Batroid on even ground. It is the enemy's main weapon.

Outside of these various mechanical characters appear.

SAMPLE STORY: EPISODE 1

In July of 1999, a huge spaceship crashed to earth, and the surface of the earth suffered the ravages of the shock. Ten years have passed since then.

It is now July of 2009. The crashed space warship gets life again as ~~Makuros~~ the macross and is about to launch out into the macrocosm. The launching is held in an industrial city which was made on a crater of the crash site. Above in the sky the air force acrobat team dazzles people with its brilliant plays. Then a small jet suddenly appears. Its showy stunt flight outdoes the acrobat team's forte. People pay attention to it, and a ~~boy~~ young man comes out of the landed jet. He is ~~Hikaru Ichijo~~ Rick Yamada, 18 years old, the hero of this story.

~~Hikaru~~ Rick was invited by Roy Fokker, an ace pilot in the 7th air division of the earth integration force. Roy is ~~Hikaru's~~ Rick's senior. He lets ~~Hikaru~~ Rick ride on the newest jet fighter, ~~Barkiriy~~ Valkyrie, and recommends him to join the army.

At that time ~~Makuros~~ the macross, in preparation for take-off, springs into action and the bow Buster Cannon goes off. The destruction beam goes up high in the sky. Captain ~~Gosuke Nenun~~ Henry Gloval goes up to the bow and ~~fixes~~ evaluates the disorder. But he ~~thinks~~ knows it is something serious. Fokker leaves ~~Hikaru~~ Rick alone in the cockpit and goes out to see the run of events.

The beam from the Buster Cannon is several tens of millions of kilometers away from the earth several minutes later. The beam destroys the ~~warship~~ scout planes of the Center Army which is ~~just passing by~~ on a scouting mission. The Center Army, upset by the surprise attack, warps on the orbit

of a satellite circling the earth to destroy ~~Makuros~~ Macross, which shot the beam, launches the carrier-borne aircraft and starts to attack. The earth versus the Center Army, the war between the fixed stars breaks out. The Earth Integration Army rushes into a war having no time to remove the misunderstanding. ~~Makuros~~ Macross, which is not yet armed, is thrown into real fighting. Under the command of the bridge operator ~~Aki~~ Lisa Hayase, the ~~Balkilly~~ Valkyrie corps are launched one by one. Even ~~Hikaru's~~ Ricks fighter is sallied before he knows it. Though he is surprised, he flies with plenty of guts. At first he does not know what to do with the fighter which he pilots, but he defeats the enemy's fighters anyway. However, he is involved in its explosion and is about to crash. Leaving things as they are, he will be smashed to atoms.

On the instructions of ~~Aki~~, ~~Hikaru~~ Lisa Ricle his Valkyrie fighter turns Balkilly into a Battroid and makes a forced landing. ~~Balkilly~~ The Valkyrie is the newest fighter, which can be turned into a ~~robot~~ Battroid. ~~Hikaru~~ Ricle is surprised at the capacity of ~~Balkilly.~~ Valkyrie ~~Hikaru~~ Ricle stops dead in his tracks as the attacking corps of the Center Army is gliding down.

LATER DEVELOPMENTS

The attacks of the Center Allied Army grow in violence. The ~~Makuros~~ Macross is forced to launch into space after getting several tens of thousands of people on board. By the recklessness of the warp machine Megaroad is sprung out to the farthest circle of the solar system. near pluto. It takes a long time to get back to earth. Megaroad tries to go back to the earth while being attacked by the Inspection Army. On the way to earth a big city is constructed on it by the ~~refugees~~. inhabitants of the Macross

Besides this, The Macross ~~Makuros~~ shows its capacity to turn into a huge robot, Daguras, and fights in a strong and unique method which the Center Army can't imagine. ~~Hikaru~~ Rick, who is now a fighter, spends days in that city during intervals in the fighting. He lives in a battlefield and in daily life. And he has various experiences there, an encounter with Minmei ~~Rim~~ Lynn, comrades' deaths, etc. ~~Hikaru~~ Rick's springtime of life goes on with in the Macross ~~Makuros~~.

~~Hikaru~~ Rick, who enters into an enemy warship by chance, knows the secret hidden behind the war between mankind and the Center Allied Army, and at the same time he finds the historical mystery of the galaxy.

~~Makuros~~ Macross returns to the earth, being flawed and having paid dearly. But the attack of the Center Army is just the beginning. The hard fight of mankind starts from now. A hard-fought battle continues. ~~Hikaru~~ Rick and the people in the Macross ~~Makuros~~ are realizing themselves as having an existance on a level with others in the macrocosm. What is the culture? How does mankind live? Centering on ~~Hikaru~~ Rick and young people who are about to set sail on the ocean called life, the story steps out in many ways with the fate of many people riding on it.

Treatment
Macross to Southern Cross to Mospeda

The basics of Robotech, an alien technology able to produce highly advanced robotics and remarkable vehicles capable of changing shape at the flick of a switch, is hidden in the databanks of a gigantic unmanned space fortress called Macross. This spacefortress has been pursued througout the galaxiess by an alliance of alien races all eager to possess the knowledge of Robotech.

In a desperate effort to elude its pursuers, Macross makes a leap through hyper-space only to crash land on the earth. The technology found on the Macross by the United Earth Government is light years ahead present-day science. The scientist of Earth decide to try and repair the Macross and unravel the secrets of Robotech which are seen as an obvious boon to mankind.

In the few years that it takes for the Alien forces to discover the location of Macross, the people of Earth have managed to structurally repair the huge ship and decipher some of the more rudimentary aspects of Robotech. A celebration is called for to proclaim the newly reconditioned Macross as the new defender of the Earth. The Aliens attack trying to secure the Macross and pry its secrets loose. The United Earth Government decides to put their new defender to the test and challange this Alien invasion with Macross.

Problems arise quickly when it is learned that the skeleton crew is untested in combat and that the Macross has a mind of its own. The simple knowledge that the Earth scientist have discovered about the Macross is merely the tip of the iceberg as every concept and theory of Robotech turns out to have unespected consequences that even the most brilliant minds could not forsee. The Macross is asked to make a simple jump into hyper-space only to bring it crew billions of miles away from its intended target and unable to relocate utilizing their self-taught Robotech logic.

The aliens follow Macross on what becomes a five year quest of knowledge and discovery. Forced to travel back to the earth by impulse power the crew of the Macross, along with a large civilian population, must defend themselves in numerous battles with the overwhelmingly superior forces of the Alien Alliance. Throughout this journey the crew of the Macross begin to learn many of the secrets of Robotech and begin an unease peace with the Aliens.

Once back on Earth several Aliens decide to help there new found friends defend their planet and unravel the secrets of the Macross for the good of people throughout the universe. To this end they subject the earth to tremendous hardship and intergalactic war. Practically all of the Earth is destroyed in a war which pits Macross against the invading army of a race of giant Zentraedis warriors. However, secrets are revealed which indicate that these alens, although possessing Robotech technology also do not understand its true functions and that Macross is the key which will unlock the wonders of Robotech.

After the initial conflict with the Zentraedis is concluded, it is decided that Macross should go into the unexplored reaches of the universe to search out the origins of Robotech. Macross leaves behind a new Earth culture which combines the best of Earths survivors with a colony of Zentraedis soldiers who have learned to embrace the feelings and point of view of their one-time enemies.

Several generations have past and the two cultures have become intermixed. The people of Earth have lived in peace. But this peace is shattered when a new alien threat arises. Apparently another Alien race, part of the original aliance has finally arrived at earth. They possess rudimentary Robotech technology and are eager to do battle in order to win the secrets that have been trying to obtain for thousands of years. Their methods are more insidious than the earlier Zentraedis warriors. They utilize various devices to probe the minds of subjects they feel will be able to provide them with information regarding Robotech.

It seems that Robotech knowledge is locked away in the subconscious minds of some individuals with a particular genetic lineage. These aliens single out these special individuals and begin probing their minds. Several cadets at the military academy become aware of this "invasion" and attempt to inform the rest of their comrades. The aliens implant information into key people which cause the cadets to appear as outlaws. They are hunted down as common criminals while the aliens try to pry the secrets of Robotech out of the initiated ones.

This alien plot eventaully fails but a new alien force appears and conquers the earth by force. It is up to a handful of resourceful heroes to defend the earth and defeat the alien invaders while protecting the secrets of Robotech and the location of Macross.

ROBOTECH

Episode #1

"BOOBYTRAP"

NARRATOR

In the year 1999, high above Macross Island in the South Pacific, a phenomenal event occurred in the skies, which altered the course of human history.

A gigantic alien spaceship broke through the very fabric of hyperspace, on a collision course with the Earth.

During its uncontrolled fall from the sky, the plummeting space fortress produced shock waves of incredible force.

The craft measured nearly three quarters of a mile in length. There was no sign of the alien crew. The armored hull had taken the brunt of the damage, leaving much of the sophisticated technosystems intact. What remained of the giant battle fortress gave evidence of a civilization that was light-years ahead of Earth's most advanced thinking.

Global war ravaged the Earth at that time, but even this devastation paled by comparison to the threat of invasion from outer space. A ceasefire was ordered and world leaders banded together to form a united Earth government.

Under the new government, the world's most brilliant minds formed a research team to study and restore the alien space fortress. Deciphering parts of documents found on board, they labored to unravel the secrets of an incredibly complex technology, called, Robotech. Convinced that the scientists had solved this complex riddle, world leaders ordered a celebration.

For ten years, the total resources of an entire planet had been focused on the restoration of the space fortress. A great city had grown up around the Robotech project and today, on the eve of the ship's maiden flight, every citizen... man, woman, and child... was gathering to celebrate their achievement, and to witness the launching of their planet's new defender.

MAYOR

Hmm, it's the big shots making their grand entrance.

MERCHANT
Captain Gloval doesn't seem too happy about it.

SEN. RUSSO
Don't look so sour Captain Gloval; it's our big day. Surely you realize all those loyal citizens out there consider you their hero?! I think you could at least wave to them.

GLOVAL
Alright... I'll wave!

NARRATOR
The countdown has begun. Onboard the giant spaceship the crew of raw recruits freshly graduated from the Robotech Academy is busy with the pre-launch checklist.

SAMMY
All manual systems are green light.

VANESSA
I will now feed you the computer projections...

LISA
The ceremony starts in fifteen minutes. I hope the Captain gets here in time. I hear he didn't get much sleep last night.

SAMMY
Roger, Traffic Bay Control, this completes your checklist.

CLAUDIA
Yeah, the other officers threw a farewell party for him. They probably sat up all night telling each other war stories. You know how they are.

LISA
And where were you Claudia?

CLAUDIA
What're you talking about Lisa?

LISA
You didn't come in until four this morning; you must have been partying too...

CLAUDIA
You jealous? I had a late dinner with Commander Fokker...What?

LISA
Claudia! You stayed out all night, knowing you both had flight duty today!

CLAUDIA
So? What's the big fuss about Lisa? We won't let it affect the performance of our duty. After all we're not children and you're not our mother!

LISA
Your responsibilities to the ship come first, Claudia.

CLAUDIA
But my private life is my business! Nobody else's! Now then, let's get to work, all right? Get outta' here!

VANESSA
Lisa doesn't understand about men Claudia.. She's in love with this spaceship.

KIM
Yeh-- you got that right.

SAMMY
Ohh, don't argue!

CLAUDIA
I'm not the one who keeps butting into everybody's business.

LISA
Ohh!...(Growl)...I'm warning you!

CLAUDIA
I hate to interrupt but hadn't you better check your monitor, Commander?

LISA
Huh?

KIM
It's an unidentified incoming aircraft, Lisa.

LISA
Oh...Attention aircraft approaching on course One-Zero-Seven...

Please identify yourself. Please identify yourself.

RICK
This is Rick Hunter...Invitation number Two-Zero-One.

LISA
That's confirmed as an invitation from Lieutenant Commander Fokker... Follow course Five-Seven for landing.

RICK
Roger!

P.A. ANNOUNCER
And now we present a display of aerial acrobatics, demonstrating the amazing advances we have made through Robotechnology. Lieutenant Commander Roy Fokker, Leader of the Veritech fighter squadron, will describe the action for us.

FOKKER
Today you'll see how we've applied human know-how to a complex alien technology.

(MORE)

FOKKER (CONT'D)
Keep your eyes on planes two and four. Flying at speeds of 800 miles per hour only fifty feet above the ground, they will pass within just a few yards of one another. Robotechnology makes such precision possible.

CROWD WALLA
(Reax)

FOKKER
Huhh?... What?...Huhhh?

Oh no!...Rick!...Is that you Rick Hunter?!

RICK
Roy! It's good to hear your voice old buddy! I understand you're a Lieutenant Commander now!

FOKKER
Are you crazy? Get that junk heap outta here!

CROWD WALLA
(Reax)

FOKKER
Hunter! When I get my hands on you! Ulp! Huhh?!

Hey Ed, switch this to radio only, will you?

What're you trying to do buddy... Make a perfect fool of me?

RICK
Aw...Nobody's perfect, Commander!

FOKKER
You haven't changed a bit, have you? Well, this isn't your dad's amateur flying circus...

My men are real pilots!

RICK
I'm gonna have to make you eat those words, Commander...Comin' in.

FOKKER
Stop clowning around...Look out! ! !

CROWD WALLA
(Terrified 'Ohhhh!')

FOKKER
Oohh...get outta' there!

CROWD WALLA
(Cheers and laughter of delight)

FOKKER
Excuse me, folks!

RICK
Phew! ...Hi Roy!

FOKKER
Just who do you think you are?!...What were you trying to do, get yourself killed?!

RICK
Hey, calm down!

FOKKER
And while we're at it, where'd you learn to do that, anyway?

RICK
It was just a simple booster climb. You taught me that yourself when I was just a kid!

Heyy!

I have to admit those guys are pretty good. Not as good as me, of course.

FOKKER
You don't have to brag to me Rick...I know all about your winning the amateur flying competition last year.

RICK
Actually I've won it eight years in a row...What've you been doing?

FOKKER
I was busy fighting a war! I guess you didn't read about my having shot down a hundred and eight enemy planes...

RICK
You're proud of being a killer?

FOKKER
Wha--? There was a war on and I was a soldier! I just did my duty!

RICK
You promised my dad that as soon as the war was over you'd come back to the air circus...Why did you go back on that promise, Roy?

FOKKER
I've really felt guilty about letting your father down...Only...This Robotech thing is so exciting I just couldn't give it up.

It just gets in your blood or something...I don't know.

RICK
What is Robotech anyway? Just more modern war machinery. And the aliens--Huh?

JASON
Cola! I want a cola! You promised me you'd buy me a Cola Minmei and I want one right now!

MINMEI
Jason! Jason behave yourself! You've already had a cola and you can't have any more.

JASON
Whyyy?!!... I want a Collllaaaa!!!

MINMEI
No, Jason--Cancel the order, please... Ohhh, you'll get sick!

JASON
I don't care! I want a cola!

MINMEI
That's it! We're going home!

Come on Jason, I don't want to spank you!

RICK
Huh?... Well Roy, I see you're still a big ladies' man.

NARRATOR
Blasting through a warp-fold in deep space, a gigantic alien spaceship enters Earth's solar system in pursuit of the damaged Robotech vessel, which has eluded capture by slipping through the time-space continuum. The command ship leads a vast armada of battle vessels manned by the Zentraedi, a race of warriors bred for thousands of generations for the sole purpose of military conquest.

BREETAI
The finder beam has locked on this planet. Are you sure this is where the transmission was coming from?

EXEDORE
Yes Sir, I'm positive.

BREETAI
They could have executed a re-fold...

EXEDORE
It's doubtful Sir...there was no evidence of a second jump into hyperspace.

BREETAI
Hmm--They couldn't have gone far in their condition.
(MORE)

BREETAI (CONT'D)
They would have to have landed in order to repair the ship. That's a logical speculation, I think.

EXEDORE
I agree...It would seem very likely, Sir.

BREETAI
Send a scout team.

RICK
Wow, this fighter's a real beauty, alright.

It looks great, but how does it handle?

FOKKER
Mm-Well why don't you just climb aboard and see for yourself?

RICK
You mean that?!

FOKKER
Sure, I'll go along and ride piggyback behind you.

The controls may look pretty complicated, but I'll check you out on them.

RICK
I'm not worried...if you can learn to fly one of these things, I can.

FOKKER
Don't be so modest.

SEN. RUSSO
This is a day we have all been looking forward to for ten years! The Robotech project has been a tremendous asset to the economy of Macross City...

MESSENGER
Excuse me, Sir...urgent message from the space monitoring station. A strange flash of light and an explosion, followed by irregularities in the gravitational field.

GLOVAL
The same sort of thing happened ten years ago. You know what happened then, don't you?

MESSENGER
That's when the alien ship arrived.

GLOVAL
Better check it out.

CLAUDIA
Every system aboard the ship is starting up. The defense system is activating the main guns to fire!

LISA
Shut down all systems!

CLAUDIA
It doesn't work!

GLOVAL
Owww! (then unintelligible grumbles)

LISA
Captain! The main guns are preparing to fire!

CLAUDIA
I can't control them! What'll we do?

BREETAI
Look at that! Now we know for sure that the ship is on that planet!

All ships continue advancing but exercise extreme caution!

LISA
We have control now. What happened, Sir?

RICK
Wow...what were all those fireworks about?

FOKKER
I dunno...I'd better go check...Wait here...I'll see what's goin' on...

SAMMY
The space monitor report is coming in. It shows what our guns were firing at.

LISA
I have it here Sammy.. Two large objects, probably spaceships, in lunar orbit two hundred thousand miles out.

Both objects were struck dead center by the beam and were disintegrated...Huh?

GLOVAL
(Laughing)

CLAUDIA & LISA
Huhhh?

LISA
Captain what is it? What are you laughing about?

GLOVAL
It was so obvious! We should have known!

A booby-trap, of course!

CLAUDIA & LISA
Booby trap, Sir?

GLOVAL
Yes, it's one of the oldest tricks in military history.
(MORE)

GLOVAL (CONT'D)
A retreating enemy leaves behind hidden explosives and such.' The aliens who abandoned this ship armed it with an automatic defense system designed to detect and destroy their enemies.

The activation of the guns means that unfriendly forces have approached close enough to be a threat to us.

SAMMY
Captain Gloval!

GLOVAL
Yes? What is it, Sammy?

SAMMY
No smoking on the bridge!

CLAUDIA
(Groan of disgust)

SAMMY
It's against regulations, Sir.

GLOVAL
Huh?...Mmm, I was just holding it, I wasn't going to light it. Scramble all the fighters and prepare for combat!

CROWD WALLA
(Apprehensive excitement)

RADIO VOICE 1
Enemy forces approaching in sector Four-One-Two.

RADIO VOICE 2
Space cruiser Armor 1 deploying all aircraft to sector Four-One-Two. This is a combat alert!

RADIO VOICE 3
Enemy approaching on bearing Niner-Zero....Commence firing!

RADIO VOICE 2
Launch all missiles!

EXEDORE
Very heavy resistance, Sir.

BREETAI
Yesss...But why are they using such primitive weapons?...Our scout ships have broken through!

It's unbelievable...Some sort of trick, no doubt.

EXEDORE
Yes, it is puzzling...

BREETAI
It makes no sense!

EXEDORE
Um, there has to be a reason, but it's beyond me. Surely the Robotech Masters...

ALIEN RADIO VOICE
Commander Breetai! The two enemy space cruisers are approaching! They could be the ones who launched the missile bombardment!

BREETAI
One moment.

Blast them to bits!

Those idiots behave as though they don't even know how to use their own weapons...Heh...Heh! Full barrage, all cannons!

RADIO VOICE 2
This is Armor Ten space cruiser calling S-D-F-1! ! Come in S-D-F-1! !

LISA
Armor Two is destroyed and Armor Ten is heavily damaged, Sir!

GLOVAL
I had hoped this moment wouldn't come in my lifetime...

After we finally achieved peace on our planet, now we face annihilation by alien forces whose power is beyond our imagination.

I had hoped that war was a thing of the past.

But here we go again...Alright, move out!

LISA
Yes, Sir! All forces move out!

We are under attack by alien invaders in sector Four-One-Two. This is not a drill. Repeat, this is not a drill! All forces proceed at once in battle formation!

FOKKER
Well boys, you heard her, this is the real thing!

LISA
Wolf Team has cleared...Skull Team prepare for takeoff!

FOKKER
Skull Team ready!

Alright men, this is it! Let's go!

BREETAI
What a disorderly arrangement! These people are completely ignorant of space war tactics.

What?! That's Zor's battle fortress, but what's happened to it?!

EXEDORE
It appears to have been completely remodeled...perhaps by the inhabitants of that planet.

BREETAI
Mere micronians couldn't possibly have captured a Robotech ship!

EXEDORE
Maybe it crashed on their planet and they managed to salvage it.

BREETAI
What about the crew?...They wouldn't just let them have it!

EXEDORE
Maybe they were killed in the crash.

BREETAI
Even so, the ship would have been seriously damaged and these primitives wouldn't have the technology to repair it.

EXEDORE
Oh I know Sir...but is there any other explanation? It is a Robotech vessel...

BREETAI
Hmmm...

EXEDORE
We know they have...

BREETAI
Reflex weaponry!

EXEDORE
Precisely, and this makes them very dangerous, so we must exercise caution.

BREETAI
(Angry Growl)

ALIEN RADIO VOICE
Target pinpointed Commander...We're launching fighters!

RICK
(Breaths, waking sounds)

LISA
This is S-D-F-1 Control, calling V-F One-Zero-Two. You there, on the exhibition grounds, we're on combat alert!..Why haven't you taken off?!

RICK
You don't mean me do you?...Hey!...What!...Huhh?!

RICK
Hey...Huh...What!...What do you mean take off?...The runway is demolished!

LISA
Don't waste anymore time!...Take off immediately and join the fighter squadron!

Runway Two is clear. You're fully armed and your jets are overheating, so prepare for immediate takeoff!

TECH 1
All set, Sir...good hunting!

RICK
Well...Okay, if you insist!

Woooowww!

Whoooooaaahhhhh!

FOKKER
This is Skull Leader calling Veritech Fighter group...

Intercept invaders at zone Four-Two-Eight.

(MORE)

FOKKER (CONT'D)
Traffic's pretty heavy out here, so break formation but try to keep each other covered!

RICK
Hey, Fokker! Would you mind telling me what's going on around here?

FOKKER
Who's that?...Rick!...How's it feel to be a fighter pilot?!

RICK
Hey, what're you talking about Big Brother?.. I'm not a fighter pilot...Ohh! !

FOKKER
Hang on Rick...I'm coming!..

You weren't hit...it was just a close one. You alright?

RICK
(Phew)
Yeh, I'm okay!

FOKKER
Don't worry...combat flying's scary for everybody when they first begin.

You'll be alright, though. You'll find it's not much different from the good old days with the flying circus.

RICK
Yeh, but I never got shot at in the circus, Roy!

FOKKER
You'll get used to it. Just tag along behind me for a while ...if you can keep up with me.

RICK
If I can? I'll do my best not to leave you behind!

FOKKER
That's the spirit! Let's go get 'em, Little Brother!

RICK
(Fear reaction)

FOKKER
Climb and bank!

Rick!

RICK
(Cries of terror)
I can't get control of it! I think I've had it, Roy, I'm getting no response from the controls at all! Oohhh!

LISA
This is S-D-F-1 Control calling V-F One-Zero-Two, pull out! You're diving right at us!

RICK
Tell me something I don't know! I can't pull out...All the controls have lost their power!

LISA
Have you tried switching to configuration 'B'?

RICK
Um, 'B'? What's that mean?

LISA
You don't know?!

Impossible!...Alright, listen, pull down the control marked 'B' on the left side of your console.

RICK
Okay...I found it!

What's it doing?!
(MORE)

RICK (CONT'D)
What'ya know?...I'm alive!

Huhh?

NARRATOR
In the next episode of Robotech, the aliens strike in full force and the desperate battle for the planet Earth reaches the very streets of Macross City. Human courage and skill are tested to the limit against the superior weapons of the Zentraedi. An heroic rescue attempt turns into a nightmare experience. Don't miss the incredible action and suspense of "COUNTDOWN"!...The next thrilling chapter in the saga of Robotech.